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**SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**SIX MEMBERS OF A SEVERN STREET DRUG OPERATION AND A SUPPLIER  
INDICTED ON COCAINE TRAFFICKING AND FIREARMS CHARGES**

**“Pioneer City Boys” Allegedly Shot a Police Officer and Threatened Cooperators**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today a federal indictment was unsealed against seven men for conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine. The charges include allegations of crack cocaine distribution, firearms offenses, and the shooting of Anne Arundel County Police Officer William Hicks. The indictment was returned under seal by a federal grand jury on September 7, 2005.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein stated, “By working together, federal, state and local law enforcement agencies can identify drug operations that terrorize our communities, and then target entire criminal organizations for investigation and prosecution.”

Anne Arundel County Police Chief. P. Thomas Shanahan said “The indictment is a significant step in ridding our communities of select individuals who account for a large majority of the violent crimes.” He also said “The indictment pertaining to the shooting of Officer Hicks is particularly satisfying and we appreciate the hard work of the men and women who helped bring this case to a successful conclusion.”

The indictment, which was unsealed today, alleges that from 2002 until the present, conspirators used residences on Arwell Court, Pioneer Drive and other locations to package and store cocaine and cocaine base (crack) for street sales in a community known as “Pioneer City” in Severn, Maryland. Six of the defendants are alleged to be members of The Pioneer City Boys: Lowell Joseph Braswell, age 21, of LaPlata; Tony Maurice Horne, Jr., age 24, of Glen Burnie; Laronte Lee Richardson, age 19, of Baltimore; Calvin Ignatius Savoy, age 27, of Severn; Troemaine Herbert Storey, age 27, of Glen Burnie; and Paul Eugene Turner, Jr., age 30, of Severn. A seventh man, Jerome Otto Waters, Jr., age 27, of Annapolis, is alleged to be one of several sources of crack cocaine for the conspirators.

The indictment charges that drug dealing operations took place in Severn, Maryland, in communities known as Still Meadows, Meade Village and Pioneer City. Members “tagged” or marked the walls, streets and mailboxes of the communities to warn people not to cooperate with law enforcement. Members used violence against competing drug traffickers in open view of the community to deter citizens from cooperating with police or the sale of drugs. The specific acts of violence charged in the indictment include the sale of firearms to undercover Anne Arundel County police officers, and the September 11, 2004 shooting of an Anne Arundel County police officer in the 1600 block of Annapolis Road in Odenton. Officer Hicks was shot once in the arm and has since returned to full duty.

Each of the seven defendants is charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine, which carries a maximum term of life imprisonment. Braswell and Richardson are also charged with possession of a firearm by a felon and face a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison consecutive to the drug conspiracy prison term. Savoy faces a maximum sentence of life in prison consecutive to the drug conspiracy prison term for discharging a firearm in connection with the shooting of the Anne Arundel County police officer.

Several of the defendants are expected to have their initial appearances in court this afternoon.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

United States Attorney Rosenstein praised the investigative work of a federal task force, which included the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Anne Arundel County Police Department; the Baltimore City Police Department, Organized Crime Division and the Annapolis Police Department. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorney Andrea L. Smith and Anne Arundel County Assistant State’s Attorney M. Virginia Miles, who are prosecuting the case.